

**SENATE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
NINETY-SECOND SESSION**

S.F. No. 4253

(SENATE AUTHORS: CHAMPION)

DATE
03/23/2022

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OFFICIAL STATUS
Introduction and first reading
Referred to Jobs and Economic Growth Finance and Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to economic development; requiring a report; appropriating money to
1.3 make workforce training and entrepreneurship investments intended to help close
1.4 the state's opportunity gaps for Minnesotans of color.

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. **APPROPRIATIONS.**

1.7 The appropriations in this act are in fiscal year 2023 from the general fund to the
1.8 commissioner of employment and economic development for the purposes specified in this
1.9 act. The appropriations are onetime, and are in addition to amounts appropriated in Laws
1.10 2021, First Special Session chapter 10.

1.11 Sec. 2. **DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.**

1.12 (a) \$500,000 is for a grant to the White Earth
1.13 Nation for the White Earth Nation Integrated
1.14 Business Development System to provide
1.15 business assistance with workforce
1.16 development, outreach, technical assistance,
1.17 infrastructure and operational support,
1.18 financing, and other business development
1.19 activities. This is a onetime appropriation.

1.20 (b) \$600,000 is for a grant to Youthprise to
1.21 give grants through a competitive process to
1.22 community organizations to provide economic

2.1 development services designed to enhance
2.2 long-term economic self-sufficiency in
2.3 communities with concentrated East African
2.4 populations. Such communities include but
2.5 are not limited to Faribault, Rochester, St.
2.6 Cloud, Moorhead, and Willmar. To the extent
2.7 possible, Youthprise must make at least 50
2.8 percent of these grants to organizations serving
2.9 communities located outside the seven-county
2.10 metropolitan area, as defined in Minnesota
2.11 Statutes, section 473.121, subdivision 2. This
2.12 is a onetime appropriation and is available
2.13 until June 30, 2024.

2.14 (c) \$700,000 is for a grant to YWCA St. Paul
2.15 to provide job training services and workforce
2.16 development programs and services, including
2.17 job skills training and counseling. This is a
2.18 onetime appropriation.

2.19 (d) \$1,500,000 is for a grant to the
2.20 Minneapolis Foundation for a strategic
2.21 intervention program designed to target and
2.22 connect program participants to meaningful,
2.23 sustainable living-wage employment. This is
2.24 a onetime appropriation.

2.25 (e) \$100,000 is for a grant to Latino
2.26 Communities United in Service (CLUES) to
2.27 expand culturally tailored programs that
2.28 address employment and education skill gaps
2.29 for working parents and underserved youth by
2.30 providing new job skills training to stimulate
2.31 higher wages for low-income people, family
2.32 support systems designed to reduce
2.33 intergenerational poverty, and youth
2.34 programming to promote educational
2.35 advancement and career pathways. At least

- 3.1 50 percent of this amount must be used for
3.2 programming targeted at greater Minnesota.
3.3 This is a onetime appropriation.
- 3.4 (f) \$1,200,000 is for a grant to Ujamaa Place
3.5 for job training, employment preparation,
3.6 internships, education, training in the
3.7 construction trades, housing, and
3.8 organizational capacity building. This is a
3.9 onetime appropriation.
- 3.10 (g) \$400,000 is for a grant to the Hmong
3.11 American Partnership, in collaboration with
3.12 community partners, for services targeting
3.13 Minnesota communities with the highest
3.14 concentrations of Southeast Asian joblessness,
3.15 based on the most recent census tract data, to
3.16 provide employment readiness training,
3.17 credentialed training placement, job placement
3.18 and retention services, supportive services for
3.19 hard-to-employ individuals, and a general
3.20 education development fast track and adult
3.21 diploma program. This is a onetime
3.22 appropriation.
- 3.23 (h) \$1,250,000 is for performance grants under
3.24 Minnesota Statutes, section 116J.8747, to
3.25 Latino Economic Development Center
3.26 (LEDC) to provide training to hard-to-train
3.27 individuals and programs that include
3.28 technical assistance to Latino entrepreneurs
3.29 and farmers, workforce development, and
3.30 business lending. This is a onetime
3.31 appropriation.
- 3.32 (i) \$300,000 is for a grant to the Center for
3.33 Hmong Arts and Talent (CHAT) for youth
3.34 development and job creation. This is a
3.35 onetime appropriation.

- 4.1 (j) \$1,250,000 is for a grant to Juxtaposition
4.2 Arts for a workforce development program
4.3 for youth and young adults 14 to 21 years of
4.4 age that are employed in year-round
4.5 apprenticeships in art and design and are
4.6 trained and mentored by adult practicing
4.7 artists, designers, and architects at
4.8 revenue-earning production studios or
4.9 JXTALabs. This is a onetime appropriation.
- 4.10 (k) \$2,500,000 is for the creation of additional
4.11 multiemployer, sector-based career
4.12 connections pathways. \$2,200,000 of this
4.13 amount is for a grant to Hennepin County to
4.14 establish pathways using the Hennepin Career
4.15 Connections framework. \$300,000 of this
4.16 amount is for a grant to Hennepin County to
4.17 establish a pilot program based on the career
4.18 connections pathways framework outside the
4.19 seven-county metropolitan area, in
4.20 collaboration with another local unit of
4.21 government.
- 4.22 (l) \$320,000 is for the capacity-building grant
4.23 program to assist nonprofit organizations
4.24 offering or seeking to offer workforce
4.25 development and economic development
4.26 programming.
- 4.27 (m) \$1,500,000 is for a grant to Mind the
4.28 G.A.P.P. (Gaining Assistance to Prosperity
4.29 Program) to improve the quality of life of
4.30 unemployed and underemployed individuals
4.31 by improving their employment outcome and
4.32 developing individual earnings potential.
- 4.33 (n) \$15,200,000 is for a nationwide Minnesota
4.34 Strong campaign. The campaign must focus
4.35 on attracting new workers to the state,

5.1 encouraging recent graduates to remain in the
5.2 state after graduating, attracting and retaining
5.3 new small businesses and growing businesses,
5.4 attracting and promoting workers from
5.5 communities of color to the state, and
5.6 attracting and retaining entrepreneurs. The
5.7 commissioner of employment and economic
5.8 development shall contract with an
5.9 organization with experience leading brand
5.10 management campaigns. Deliverables must
5.11 include but not be limited to focus groups,
5.12 content creation, video production,
5.13 advertisements, and social media. By January
5.14 15, 2025, the commissioner shall report to the
5.15 chairs and ranking minority members of the
5.16 legislative committees with jurisdiction over
5.17 economic development on the results of the
5.18 campaign.

5.19 (o) \$15,000,000 is for a grant to Northside
5.20 Economic Opportunity Network to create
5.21 revolving loan funds to provide additional
5.22 minority-owned businesses with access to
5.23 capital and operating support activities related
5.24 to business development and assistance
5.25 services for minority business enterprises.

5.26 (p) \$1,000,000 is for a grant to the Catalyst
5.27 Coalition to provide workforce development
5.28 services.

5.29 (q) \$3,500,000 is for grants to Career
5.30 Solutions, Central Minnesota Community
5.31 Empowerment Organization, Hands Across
5.32 the World, and the Higher Collaborative to
5.33 address workforce shortages in central
5.34 Minnesota by developing workforce initiatives
5.35 to address high employment in the Black,

- 6.1 Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC)
6.2 community.
- 6.3 (r) \$960,000 is for a grant to Central
6.4 Minnesota Workforce Development Collective
6.5 Impact Partners to provide driver education,
6.6 financial literacy training, and job placement
6.7 and retention services.
- 6.8 (s) \$248,000 is for grants to Promise
6.9 Neighborhood and Too Much Talent to
6.10 provide leadership development, trainings,
6.11 programs, workshops, and support to improve
6.12 access to jobs, internships, and economic
6.13 opportunities.
- 6.14 (t) \$5,000,000 is for a grant to the Business
6.15 Resource Collective to provide workforce
6.16 development services.
- 6.17 (u) \$2,500,000 is for a grant to The Stairstep
6.18 and His Works United, on behalf of 21 Days
6.19 of Peace, to collaborate with law enforcement
6.20 to address areas of violence. Program
6.21 participants must develop individual education
6.22 and career plans as they work with members
6.23 of the community to identify and address
6.24 education, mental health services, job training,
6.25 and workshops for life improvement as a
6.26 public safety strategy.